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LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session - 2021

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1 AN ACT
2 RELATING TO ELECTIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 11, TITLE 34, IDAHO CODE, BY THE AD-
3 DITION OF A NEW SECTION 34-1115, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR ALTERNATIVE
4 PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION DAY VOTING AND TO PROVIDE FOR VOTE CENTERS; AND
5 DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING A SUNSET DATE.

6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

7 SECTION 1. That Chapter 11, Title 34, Idaho Code, be, and the same is
8 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-
9 ignated as Section 34-1115, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

10 34-1115. ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION DAY VOTING -- VOTE CEN-
11 TERS. (1) Counties that use voting facilities with access to the Idaho
12 statewide voter registration system or that use electronic poll books au-
13 thorized under section 34-1106A, Idaho Code, and that count ballots at a
14 central location or use a polling location-based tabulation system may elect
15 to establish one (1) or more vote centers according to the provisions of this
16 section.

17 (2) A vote center shall be equipped to issue the appropriate ballot to
18 any elector from any precinct within the county and to record that elector as
19 having voted.

20 (3) An elector who appears at a vote center to vote shall state the elec-
21 tor's name and address to the election official and present the elector's
22 identification as required by sections 34-1113 and 34-1114, Idaho Code.

23 (4) The election official shall examine the records to ascertain
24 whether or not the applicant is registered and lawfully entitled to vote
25 as requested. The provisions of section 34-408A, Idaho Code, authorizing
26 election day registration, shall also apply in determining the applicant's
27 qualifications to vote.

28 (5) Before receiving a ballot, each elector shall sign the elector's
29 name in the election register and poll book provided for vote centers. The
30 elector shall then be given the appropriate ballots.

31 (6) Upon receipt of the ballots, the elector shall retire to a vacant
32 voting booth and mark the ballots according to the instructions provided.

33 (7) After marking the ballot, the elector shall present himself to the
34 election official at the ballot box and state the elector's name. The elec-
35 tor shall then deposit the ballot in the ballot box or hand it to the election
36 official who shall deposit the ballot. The election official shall proclaim
37 in an audible voice that the elector has voted.

38 (8) Any county that plans to use one (1) or more vote centers shall:

39 (a) Provide at least one (1) vote center in each legislative district
40 within the county;

41 (b) Provide at least one (1) vote center for every fifteen thousand
42 (15,000) registered voters; and

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1 (c) Provide at least one (1) vote center within twenty-five (25)
2 miles of every registered voter who is not located within a mail ballot
3 precinct pursuant to section 34-308, Idaho Code.

4 (9) Voters requiring assistance shall be provided with assistance in
5 accordance with section 34-1108, Idaho Code.

6 (10) Any county that plans to use one (1) or more vote centers shall no-
7 tify the secretary of state at least thirty (30) days prior to the first im-
8 plementation. The use of vote centers shall be included as part of the des-
9 ignation of precinct polling locations under section 34-302, Idaho Code, and
10 shall be included in the legal publications provided for in sections 34-602
11 and 34-1406, Idaho Code.

12 (11) Electioneering is prohibited at a vote center polling place pur-
13 suant to section 18-2318, Idaho Code.

14 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its
16 passage and approval.

17 SECTION 3. The provisions of this act shall be null, void, and of no
18 force and effect on and after December 31, 2020.